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Bar Association, and to a victory won by the Association in securing a betterment of the conditions as to requirements for admission to the bar.

Among the numerous papers read we would call attention to that by J. H. McConologue on "Justice Samuel F. Miller—His Life Career and Character. The Great Work He Did for His Country;" and to that on "Some Legal Phases of Insanity," by Paul E. Carpenter.

J. G. K.

TEXT-BOOK OF MEDICAL JURISPRUDENCE AND TOXICOLOGY. By JOHN J. REESE, M. D., Late Professor of Medical Jurisprudence and Toxicology in the University of Pennsylvania; late President of the Medical Jurisprudence Society of Philadelphia Sixth edition. Revised by HENRY LEFFMANN, A. M., M. D., Professor of Chemistry and Toxicology in the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania; Pathological Chemist to the Jefferson Medical College Hospital; Vice-President (British) Society of Public Analysts. Pp. xvi + 660. Philadelphia: P. Blackiston's Son & Co., 1012 Walnut St. 1902.

It was the object of Dr. Reese in the first edition of his treatise to condense the essentials of medical jurisprudence into a handy volume "to meet the wants of Legal Medicine." It remained for Dr. Leffmann to follow in their growth the subjects discussed by the author, and to show the changes that have occurred with the progress of time. The revising editor says: "Since the publication of the last edition of this work the subject of toxicology has been much developed;" but, he adds, "the general character of the book as it left the hand of its distinguished author has been retained."

That the medical science makes more rapid strides than the law, there can be no doubt. The law develops. Medicine advances at once by development and by discovery. Hence the need of keeping Dr. Reese's little text-book absolutely modern and up to date. Many recent cases and accidents of note have been inserted in the present edition.

The plan of the author of condensing the work to the mere "essentials of the science" has been preserved by the editor, so far as to avoid any citation whatever of even the most important cases. McNaghten's case, for instance, is mentioned by name in the discussion of insanity, but no reference is given as to its date, or to the place where it is reported. One case discussed at some length (p. 301 *et seq.*) is not mentioned by name, but is merely referred to as "a somewhat remarkable case . . . tried in Philadelphia in 1854." The case was one of but a few on the specific subject, and is largely discussed by Wharton and Stillé in their work on medical jurisprudence,

having arisen in fact under the personal professional practice of one of the authors. No credit is given in the present edition. This, while compatible with the brief character of the book, perhaps goes a step too far. Many experiments, incidents of professional practice, and instances of expert testimony by Dr. Reese are given.

The book, from pages 1 to 384, inclusive, contains the discussion of medical jurisprudence, and on pages 144-145 there is a table on the "Comparative Size of Blood Corpuscles;" from pages 385 to 653, inclusive, there is a treatise on "Toxicology or Poisoning."

The work is without a doubt of more value to medical students than to those engaged in the study and practice of law. To the medical practitioner are explained his duties at post-mortem examinations, at coroners' inquests, at court, on the witness stand and elsewhere. Legal terms are defined more for the use of doctors than of lawyers; for example, the distinction in the words "illusion," hallucination" and "delusion." Where a term has one meaning in medicine, but is narrower or broader in courts of law, that is pointed out (*e. g.* "abortion," page 220). Bits of sound advice to doctors in matters pertaining to the law are found, as: "He should never be afraid frankly to confess his ignorance. Nothing is more dangerous than for a witness to attempt to guess, for fear of being thought ignorant" (p. 26). Again: "A medical witness should confine his answers strictly to the questions put to him . . . avoiding the tendency to theorize, or speculate upon legal distinctions." There is a reasonable and thoughtful discussion on medical experts' compensation in the first portion of the book.

Taken as a whole the volume accomplishes what it undertakes. To say that it takes the place or in any similar degree satisfies the want of a more copious treatise like that of Wharton and Stillé, would be highly inaccurate. On the contrary, it accomplishes another equally important task, viz: that of presenting to legal and more particularly to medical students, a collection of fundamental principles stripped of detail and prolixity. By the labors of the editor of the present edition, a work of so much importance to students has been made to keep pace with the times.

B. H. L.

PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE IN PENNSYLVANIA UNDER LEGISLATION FROM 1887 TO 1902, INCLUDING AMENDMENTS TO PRIOR ACTS (Annotated). By ALBERT D. WILSON, of the Philadelphia Bar. Pp. 268. Philadelphia: Rees Welsh & Co. 1903.

Of late years the Legislature of Pennsylvania has been active in dealing with matters of procedure. Books of practice can no longer be relied on without supplementing them with an exami-